

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine of claim 2 ~~[[1]]~~ in which the display means is a video display unit and the display of the reels is constituted by a video simulation of spinning reels.
3. (Original) The gaming machine of claim 2 in which the set of symbols on each of the reels has more than one occurrence of the scatter symbol.
4. (Original) The gaming machine of claim 3 in which the set of symbols of each reel has at least two scatter symbols.
5. (Original) The gaming machine of claim 3 in which the scatter symbols are positioned on each reel such that up to three scatter symbols are able to be displayed together at any one time.
- 6-8. (Cancelled)

9. (New) A gaming machine for playing a spinning reel game in which a player wagers a bet on the outcome of the game, comprising:

a video display arranged to display a simulation of spinning reels, each of the reels carrying a plurality of symbols, the symbols carried by each reel including a plurality of standard symbols and one or more scatter symbols, the video display being configured to display at least three symbols for each reel when the reels are in a rest condition;

a wager selector in which a player selects the wager to be made on the outcome of a game played on the machine, the wager selector being adapted to accept wagers by a player for one or more of a plurality of paylines on the display; and

a game control arranged to cause the reels to spin and then come to rest, thereby defining a game outcome, and

(a) if a predefined combination of standard symbols occurs on a payline on which the player has wagered a bet, or

(b) if a predefined number of scatter symbols occur anywhere on the display, the machine awards a prize defined by a paytable;

and wherein the scatter symbols are arranged on the respective reels such that each of the reels has at least one scatter symbol and at least one reel has at least a pair of scatter symbols separated from each other on that reel by no more than one standard symbol, wherein all the displayed scatter symbols contribute to the number of scatter symbols on the display, it thus being possible to achieve a game outcome in which the number of scatter symbols displayed is greater than the number of reels in the game.